

2. System of claim 1 wherein said signal responsive tag is an RFID.

3. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

a delivery vehicle;

a set of packages within said vehicle, said packages having a signal responsive

tag;

a transmitter for querying one of the signal responsive tags within said vehicle to

thereby locate the package corresponding to said signal responsive tag, said signal

responsive tag emitting a signal in response to said querying; and

~~System of claim 2 wherein said means for identifying comprises at least one light~~
~~beam source for pointing to said package with a light beam, the direction of said light~~
~~beam being in response to said signal.~~

4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

a delivery vehicle;

a set of packages within said vehicle, said packages having at least one signal
responsive tag;

a transmitter for querying one of the tags within said vehicle to thereby locate the
package corresponding to said tag, said tag generating a signal in response to said
querying; and

a pointing device for identifying a package corresponding to said queried tag by pointing toward said package in a direction responsive to said signal generated by said tag.

6. (Original) A system comprising:

a delivery vehicle;

a set of packages within said vehicle, said packages having at least one signal responsive tag;

a transmitter for querying one of the tags within said vehicle to thereby locate the package corresponding to said tag; and

an output structure secured ~~coupled~~ to said tag for providing an audible or visible output identifying the package corresponding to said queried tag.

Q1 7. (Currently Amended) System of claim 6 wherein the tag is an RFID and the output structure is either a light emitting device secured ~~coupled~~ to the queried RFID for providing a visible output identifying said RFID or a sound emitting device secured ~~coupled~~ to the queried RFID for providing an audible output identifying said RFID.

8. (Currently Amended) Method for locating a package within a vehicle comprising:

providing a signal for querying a signal responsive tag, said tag being within or affixed to said package within said vehicle;

receiving a reply signal from said tag;

determining the location of the tag in response to the reply signal and indicating the location of the tag using one or more light beams for pointing toward the tag, the direction of said light beams being responsive to said reply signal.

9. (Currently Amended) Method of claim 8 wherein said tag is an RFID ~~and the indicating of said location is accomplished using one or more light beams for pointing toward the RFID.~~

10. (Currently Amended) Method for locating a package within a vehicle comprising:

providing a signal for querying a signal responsive tag, said tag being within or affixed to said package within said vehicle; and

providing an audible and/or visible indication at the location of the tag in response to said querying of said tag, said audible and/or visible indication being provided by an indication source secured to said tag.

11. (Original) Method of claim 10 wherein said tag is an RFID and said audible indication is provided by a sound-emitting device coupled to the RFID.

12. (Original) Method of claim 10 wherein said tag is an RFID and said visible indication is provided by a light-emitting device coupled to the RFID.

13. (Original) System comprising:

a vehicle for carrying packages;

means for determining when the vehicle reaches a destination; and

means for generating a list of transactions at said destination when said vehicle is determined to have arrived at said destination.

14. (Original) A method comprising:

providing a vehicle transporting a set of packages to a destination;

sensing when the vehicle arrives at a destination; and

generating a list of transactions when said vehicle arrives at said destination in response to said automatic sensing.

15. (Original) Method of claim 14 wherein said automatically sensing comprises sensing a RFID within or affixed to said vehicle.

16. (Original) Method of claim 14 wherein a GPS is affixed to the vehicle, said automatically sensing being performed by said GPS.

17. (Original) Method of claim 14 wherein said list of transactions comprises a list of packages to be taken off of said vehicle and delivered to said destination.

18. (Original) Method of claim 14 wherein said list of transactions comprises a list of packages to be placed on said vehicle from said destination.

19. (Original) System comprising:
a vehicle for carrying packages;
a sensing mechanism for determining when the vehicle reaches a destination; and
an output device for providing a list of transactions at said destination when said vehicle is determined to have arrived at said destination.

20. (Currently Amended) System comprising:
a vehicle for carrying packages;
means for determining when the vehicle reaches a destination; and
means for automatically communicating a to a purchaser when the goods have arrived at said destination.

21. (Original) A method comprising:
providing a vehicle transporting a set of packages to a destination;
automatically sensing when the vehicle arrives at a destination; and
initiating a message to a purchaser when said packages arrives at said destination in response to said automatic sensing.

22. (Original) Method of claim 21 wherein said automatically sensing comprises sensing a RFID within or affixed to said vehicle.

23. (Original) Method of claim 21 wherein said automatically sensing comprises sensing RFIDs within or affixed to said packages.

24. (Original) Method of claim 21 wherein a GPS is affixed to the vehicle, said automatically sensing being performed by said GPS.

25. (Original) Method of claim 21 wherein said sensing device automatically senses when the vehicle has arrived at said destination, said sensing device being coupled via a WAN to a computer system, said computer system initiating a message to a purchaser in response to the arrival of said vehicle.

26. (Original) Method of claim 21 wherein said sensing device automatically senses when the packages have arrived at said destination, said sensing device being coupled via a WAN to a computer system, said computer system initiating a message to a purchaser in response to the arrival of said vehicle.

27. (Original) System comprising:
a vehicle for carrying packages;
a sensor determining when the vehicle reaches a destination; and
a message transmitter for automatically communicating a message to a purchaser when the goods have arrived at said destination.

28. (Currently Amended) Method comprising:
providing a set of packages on a vehicle, at least some of said packages comprising a signal responsive tag within or affixed thereto;

providing a database listing said packages within said vehicle;

removing at least some of said packages from said vehicle;

scanning the tags within or affixed to said packages; and

updating said database in response to said scanning,

wherein said tags are RFIDs and said scanning is accomplished with a scanner,

said scanner providing a RF signal for querying said RFIDs and for receiving reply

signals generated by said RFIDs in response to said signal for querying, said database

being contained within one or more memory devices that are coupled to said scanner via

a WAN.

✓ 29. (Canceled)

30. (Original) Method of claim 28 wherein said tags are RFIDs and said providing of said database comprises scanning the RFIDs of packages loaded onto said vehicle to thereby establish a list of said packages within said vehicle.

31. (Original) Method of claim 28 further comprising querying said database to ascertain the location of said package.

32. (Original) System comprising:

a destination location, said destination location comprising a scanner for scanning signal responsive tags contained within or affixed to packages;

one or more databases comprising a list of packages within a vehicle, said one or more databases being stored within one or more memory devices; and

a digital device coupled to said scanner and said one or more memory devices for updating the database as the tags within said vehicle are scanned by said scanner.

33. (Original) A method for amalgamating vehicle resources from a plurality of companies, said companies having one or more vehicles for delivering packages to recipients, said method comprising:

providing a database of deliveries of packages that need to be made; and

communicating delivery instructions to said vehicles via a network, said vehicles picking up packages from one or more points of origin and delivering said packages to selected destinations in response to said delivery instructions, said vehicles being owned by at least a plurality of different companies.

34. (Currently Amended) Method of claim ~~32~~ 33 further comprising:

receiving requests for package deliveries;

allocating said requests to the vehicles;

updating said database of deliveries; and

communicating instructions to said vehicles instructing said vehicles where to deliver said packages.

35. (Currently Amended) Method of claim ~~32~~ 33 wherein said database of deliveries can be accessed by said different companies.

36. (Currently Amended) Method of claim ~~32~~ 33 wherein each of said different companies maintains a database of delivery instructions in a computer system, said method comprising updating the databases of delivery instructions in the computer systems of said different companies, said computer systems of said different companies being coupled to said database of deliveries via a network.

37. (Currently Amended) Method of claim ~~32~~ 33 wherein said network is the internet.

38. (Currently Amended) Method of claim ~~32~~ 33 wherein said vehicles pick up packages at a single point of origin.

39. (Currently Amended) Method of claim ~~32~~ 33 wherein at least some of said packages comprises machine readable indicia, said method further comprising scanning said machine readable indicia and updating a database to indicate when said packages are loaded into said vehicles, said database indicating the locations of said packages.


40. (Currently Amended) Method of claim ~~38~~ 39 wherein said updated database can be accessed by said plurality of companies.

41. (Currently Amended) Method of claim ~~38~~ 39 further comprising updating a plurality of databases in response to the scanning of said machine readable indicia, each

of said databases being maintained by an associated one of said companies within said plurality of companies, whereby each of said companies can track the location of said packages.

42. (Currently Amended) Method of claim ~~38~~ 39 wherein said machine readable indicia are provided by an RFID, said indicia being in the form of radio signals.

43. (Currently Amended) Method of claim ~~38~~ 39 wherein at least some of said packages comprises machine readable indicia, said method further comprising scanning said machine readable indicia when said packages are being delivered to update a database that tracks the location of said packages.



44. (Currently Amended) Method of claim ~~38~~ 39 wherein the entities owning said vehicles are compensated based on an interactive bidding system, whereby delivery requests are communicated to said entities, and said entities reply to said requests by bidding on delivery tasks.

45. (Currently Amended) Method of claim ~~32~~ 33 wherein at least some of said vehicles picks up packages from a freight receipt terminal.

46. (Currently Amended) Method of claim ~~44~~ 45 wherein said freight receipt terminal comprises an airport or a rail terminal.

47. (Currently Amended) Method of claim ~~45~~ 46 wherein a first one of said vehicles receives said package from a first location and deposits said package at an intermediate location, and a second one of said vehicles receives said package from said intermediate location and provides said package to a third location.

48. (Currently Amended) Method of claim ~~46~~ 47 further comprising scheduling the carrying of said package by said first vehicle, wherein said first vehicle is scheduled to travel from said first location to said intermediate location prior to said scheduling the carrying of said package by said first vehicle, the entity operating said first vehicle having a database listing items to be transported by said first vehicle, said scheduling comprising accessing said database via a wide area network to schedule the carrying of said package.

49. (Currently Amended) Method of claim ~~32~~ 33 wherein said communicating delivery instructions comprises communicating a list of packages to be delivered, said list being communicated to an output device, said output device being located at a destination location of one of said vehicles.

50. (Currently Amended) A system for amalgamating delivery vehicles that are owned by a plurality of companies into a delivery system comprising:

a computer system having a database, said database containing a list of deliveries to be made said vehicles that are owned by said plurality of companies; and

a communication mechanism for communicating delivery instructions to said vehicles that are owned by different companies.

51. (Currently Amended) System of claim 49 50 wherein said plurality of companies have computers coupled to said computer system via a network so that said plurality of companies can access said database.

52. (Currently Amended) System of claim 49 50 wherein said plurality of companies have computers coupled to said computer system via a network, said computers maintaining a list of at least those deliveries to be made by vehicles owned by said companies.

53.

(Currently Amended) System of claim 49 50 wherein said communication mechanism communicates said delivery instructions to output devices located at delivery destination locations.

54. (Original) A method for providing a delivery system by amalgamating delivery vehicles of a plurality of companies, said method comprising:

providing a computer system having one or more databases, said one or more databases tracking the location of a set of packages and a set of deliveries to be made by said vehicles of said plurality of companies;

updating said databases when said packages are provided in said vehicles so that said database indicates that said packages are in said vehicles.

55. (Currently Amended) Method of claim ~~53~~ 54 wherein at least some of said packages contains or is coupled to machine readable indicia for identifying said packages.

56. (Currently Amended) Method of claim ~~53~~ 54 wherein said databases can be accessed by said companies within said plurality.

57. (Currently Amended) Method of claim ~~53~~ 54 wherein each of said companies within said plurality maintain a database indicating the location of at least some of said packages.

58. (Currently Amended) Method of claim ~~53~~ 54 wherein at least some of said packages contains or is affixed to machine readable indicia for identifying said packages, said method further comprising:

scanning said machine readable indicia coupled to or contained within said packages; and

updating said database in response to said scanning.

59. (Original) System amalgamating the vehicles of a plurality of companies comprising:

a computer system having one or more databases, said one or more databases tracking the location of a set of packages and a set of deliveries to be made by the vehicles of said plurality of companies; and

a scanner coupled to said computer system for scanning said machine readable indicia, said computer system updating said one or more databases in response to said scanning.

60-61. (Canceled)